

# #12193

## ASIAN ELEPHANTS

CLEARVUE/SVE, 2004  
Grade Level: 2–6  
12 Minutes

**CLEARVUE & SVE**



### CAPTIONED MEDIA PROGRAM RELATED RESOURCES

- [#3123 A FIRST LOOK AT ELEPHANTS AND RHINOS](#)
- [#8393 THE JUNGLE BOOK](#)
- [#10815 ANIMALS & ME EATING](#)

# ANIMAL STORIES FOR STUDENTS

## Asian Elephants



### Learning Objectives

After completing the program and participating in discussion, students will be able to:

- Explain the relationship between an elephant and a mahoot;
- Understand the importance of maintaining a healthy environment for wild elephants;
- Relate facts about the journey a mahoot takes with an elephant;
- Define nocturnal activity; and
- Explain the ceremony that takes place in India before a journey.

### Review Questions

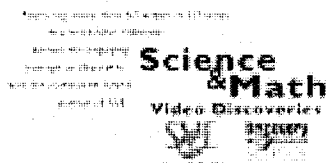
1. Ask students to explain what a mahoot is. What is his/her job? What is the main goal?
2. What is nocturnal activity? How does it relate to elephants?
3. What kind of ceremony is a puja? What does the mahoot ask for?
4. Ask students why it is important to study the relationship between elephants and humans. What can humans do to protect the elephant's natural habitat?
5. What is the name of the Indian deity with the elephant head? What does this god mean to the Indian people?
6. Are elephants good climbers? Is the answer to this question surprising? Why or why not?
7. Are elephants the largest creatures that live on land?
8. When is an elephant most defenseless?

### Target Vocabulary

mahoot  
puja  
nocturnal  
deity  
migratory path

### Activities

1. Ask students to research Asian elephants. Using library sources, ask them to write a short report that discusses the Asian elephant's eating habits, survival skills, and family life. Finally, how might a wild elephant's life differ from that of an elephant that lives with humans?
2. Have a group discussion after viewing the program. Why is it important for the mahoot and the elephant to have a relationship that is built on trust? What does the mahoot do to build this trust? Do you think your pets at home trust you? Why or why not?
3. Ask students to research elephants from India and elephants from Africa. Ask each student to find information about each elephant's habitat, eating habits, and family life. Have students prepare a poster board that outlines similarities and differences between Asian and African elephants.



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# Animal Stories for Students

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Asian Elephants

What do you remember from the program? After viewing *Asian Elephants*, fill in the blanks using the word bank below.

1. An elephant handler in India is also called a \_\_\_\_\_.
2. An elephant handler often asks for blessings and good luck before a journey. This ceremony is called a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Animals that are active at night are called \_\_\_\_\_ animals.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ is the god of beginnings and protection in Indian culture. This deity is said to have the head of an elephant.
5. Elephants and mahoots follow the \_\_\_\_\_ path across Northeast India.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ is the country where the Queen of the Elephants lives.
7. Mahoots feed the elephants boiled \_\_\_\_\_ and salt, which is rolled in leaves to keep them healthy.
8. Elephants \_\_\_\_\_ for up to two hours each day.
9. By watching what plants elephants eat to heal themselves, mahoots have learned about \_\_\_\_\_.
10. An elephant can carry up to one \_\_\_\_\_, but the weight must be evenly carried on its back.
11. There are \_\_\_\_\_ of deities, or gods, in India.
12. \_\_\_\_\_ are the largest animals that live on land.

W O R D  B A N K	elephants	Ganesh	walk	deity
	travel	migratory	plants	wheat
	nocturnal	India	mahoot	Queen of the Elephants
	hundreds	ton	thousands	medicine
	bathe	eat	rice	puja

# Animal Stories for Students

## ANSWER KEY

### Asian Elephants

What do you remember from the program? After viewing *Asian Elephants*, fill in the blanks using the word bank below.

1. An elephant handler is also called a mahoot.
2. An elephant handler often asks for blessings and good luck before a journey. This ceremony is called a puja.
3. Animals that are active at night are called nocturnal animals.
4. Ganesh is the god of beginnings and protection in Indian culture. This deity is said to have the head of an elephant.
5. Elephants and mahoots follow the migratory path across Northeast India.
6. India is the country where the Queen of the Elephants lives.
7. Mahoots feed the elephants boiled wheat and salt, which is rolled in leaves to keep them healthy.
8. Elephants bathe for up to two hours each day.
9. By watching what plants elephants eat to heal themselves, mahoots have learned about medicine.
10. An elephant can carry up to one ton, but the weight must be evenly carried on its back.
11. There are hundreds of deities in India.
12. Elephants are the largest animals that live on land.

W	elephants	Ganesh	walk	deity
O				
R	travel	migratory	plants	wheat
D	nocturnal	India	mahoot	Queen of the Elephants
B	hundreds	ton	thousands	medicine
A				
N	bathe	eat	rice	puja
K				